## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 27, 2005 LB 117

because she disagrees with my interpretation of things. Senator Schimek, do you...and you don't have to answer... I mean, it's not to be on the mike, but what I'm looking at is a handout that says, methamphetamine. There is a multicolored legend on the front of it, and if you open it, then they first misspelled the word--they use "affects" when they mean "effects," but I'm going to read this sentence, what they call a sentence. "The drug's euphoric effects are longer lasting than cocaine, from 8 to 24 hours, a big part of popularity." This is what our children are getting. Now some people say we're talking about methamphetamine, not grammar, but I think everybody would think more precisely, everybody would make better judgments, if they were careful with language, if they respected it, if they improved and increased their vocabulary. The more words a person has at his or her disposal, the better, not only can he or she express thoughts that currently exist, but can even better formulate thoughts. So if in every course that a person takes in school writing is required, this would be a much more literate society. Whether it's a science course, a math course, biology, zoology, it makes no different. Require writing. law school and every other professional school -- medical school, pharmacy, dentistry--require the people when thev examinations to use complete sentences and express themselves coherently. Require it. People would even have a higher level of day-to-day conversation, and that would benefit the society. And now this may seem like a stretch. If people have self-confidence and self-respect, a lot of things they do for attention they wouldn't have to do. If boys could get attention by expressing themselves well, they would express themselves well and they'd be living in the dictionary. But people do not respect language, so a loud car, low-slung britches, tattoos, cursing, disrespecting girls, insulting women...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...are the attention-getters, using alcohol, smoking cigarettes, waving around condoms, and talking trash. They're not given anything else, and they're not shown a basis for respecting those things that we older people are always saying are of significance. Well, why don't we show the way by our example? That's not going to solve the meth problem or any